

SUMMER IS ON THE WAY



Who would want to live anywhere else? Orange County – especially West Orange County – enjoys some of the best weather in the world. The forecasts call for daytime temps in the low 70s to mid-60s all the way to the weekend. Above, a lone surfer beneath the Huntington Beach Pier will likely be joined by many more as spring turns into summer (Shutterstock/Ashley Hadzopolous).

GGUSD gets \$18 mill grant from Ed. Dept.

A grant worth \$18 million has been awarded to the Garden Grove Unified School District to expand its “Community Schools” program.

The grant was approved by the State Board of Education recently for 13 new community schools,

including Bryant, Clinton, Faylane, Murdy, Rosita, Stanley and Violette elementary schools, as well as Alamitos, Lake, Ralston and Walton intermediate schools and Hare and Rancho Alamitos high schools.

Continued on page 2

Harbor Blvd. hotel row is doing well, leaders are told

A report on the Garden Grove Tourism Improvement District before the City Council on Tuesday recounted how the hotel business on Harbor Boulevard is going, and was told that business is booming.

The district is a self-as-

■ GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL

essed tax entity of 10 hotels in Garden Grove and the money raised goes for marketing, private security, maintenance and land-

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In The Trib



‘Nonna’ sweet and schmaltzy

ARTS & LIVING 5

Hunting the best French dip

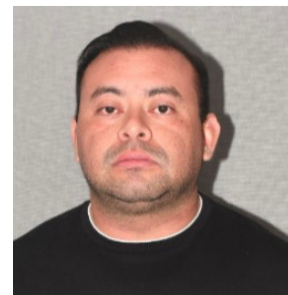


NEWS & VIEWS 3

Suspect Held For Alleged ‘Lewd Conduct’

GG man arrested by the RPD

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune



FRANCIS LEDESMA CASTILLO (RPD photo)

A Garden Grove man has been arrested for allegedly “engaging in lewd behavior” near a high school in Riverside.

According to the Riverside Police Department, Francis Ledesma Castillo, 37, is charged with multiple offenses of annoying or molesting children and indecent exposure.

Additionally, a search of his home resulted in finding several unregistered firearms, an illegally-manufactured AR-style rifle and armor-piercing ammunition.

An RPD school resource officer launched an investigation into reports of a male suspect masturbat-

ing inside a black Mercedes-Benz sedan next to Abraham Lincoln High School in the Eastside Neighborhood.

The inquiry that followed identified Castillo as the suspect and he was located and contacted in Garden Grove on May 1. A search warrant was ob-

Continued on page 2



THE SUSPECT VEHICLE (RPD photo)

'Lewd conduct' arrest of GG man

Continued from page 1

tained and served, resulting in the discovery of the firearms and ammunition. "We believe Mr. Ledesma Castillo may have committed similar lewd acts in his black Mercedes-Benz near many other schools across Riverside

and Orange counties," said Capt. Chad Milby of the RPD. "It's likely there are additional victims who have not yet come forward." Anyone with more information about this issue is urged to contact Detective Andre Sanchez at (951) 353-7133 or AMSanchez@RiversideCA.gov.

GGUSD gets \$18m grant for 'community schools'

Continued from page 1

"This grant funding allows us to deepen our practice of collaboration, engaging our students, families, staff and community partners in targeted improvement strategies that meet the unique needs of each school," according to GGUSD Board of Education Vice President Bob Harden. A "community school," as defined by the California Department of Education, is a public school that serves pre-kindergarten through 12th grade and has

"community partnerships" with parents, other educational entities, public health and community groups and agencies to serve the "highest-need" schools. Currently involved in the community schools program in the GGUSD are Eisenhower Elementary, Heritage Computer Science Academy, Newhope Elementary, Russell Elementary Language Academy, Doig Intermediate, Fitz Intermediate Language Academy and Los Amigos and Santiago high schools.

Harbor Boulevard hotels do well

Continued from page 1

scaping and other functions. Total revenue for the district for 2025-26 is estimated to be \$848,000, which includes

\$115,000 in carryover from the previous year, according to Greg Blodgett, deputy director for economic development and housing.

The Tribune

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News & Views

Play ball for the downtrodden of the diamond

Come on down, Pope Bob. Wait, I'm sorry. I shouldn't have been so informal when referring to Pope Leo XIV, once known as Robert Prevost of Chicago.

As someone raised Catholic, I should know that the proper third person reference is to "His Holiness." But this is so exciting that it's easy to slip into casual forms of address.



Retorts
Jim Tortolano

He's the first American to become leader of the 1.4 billion worldwide Roman Catholic communion and that's nothing to sneeze at.

Already he has declared himself to be an advocate for the downtrodden and coming from the South Side of Chicago, he's a fan of the Chicago White Sox, who – based on the last 200 or so days of Major League Baseball – are surely among the most downtrodden.

Here's the local angle. Two of the most consistently needy teams in big league sports are the ChiSox and the Los Angeles Angels, both mired (again) in last place in their respective divisions.

Surely a man in his position could be interested in sending some good words to The Man Upstairs about their fates.

So here's my plan. Invite Pope Leo XIV to celebrate a Mass at the Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove, and then address the masses at Angel Stadium before a double-header between the Pale Sox and the Halos.

In a perfect outcome, each team wins one and goes off in a winning streak. Plus it brings lots of business to Harbor Bou-

Continued on page 10

\$650,000 damage in Stanton

No people hurt and dog rescued from fire on Hickcock Rd.

An estimated \$650,000 in damage was done to a home in Stanton on Friday afternoon by a fire.

According to the Orange County Fire Authority, multiple calls came in shortly before 2 p.m. about a blaze in the 10300 block of Hickcock Road, northeast of Cerritos and Western avenues.

Firefighters searched and determined no people were inside the one-story structure, but a dog was found an evacuated.

There were no injuries reported and animal control officers took care of the dog.

Damage to the structure is estimated at \$500,000 and \$150,000 to contents. The cause of the fire is under investigation.



SMOKE SHOWING from a home in the 10300 block of Hickcock Road in Stanton on Friday (OCFA photo).

Sourdough sandwiches are sweet

By John M. Borack
Orange County Tribune

Since I follow several online food bloggers and reviewers on social media, information about various restaurants pops up on my Instagram and Facebook timelines with some degree of regularity. If the establishment sounds good and is in close enough proximity, I bookmark it on Yelp and eventually pay them a visit.

Such was the case with Sourdough & Co. in Huntington Beach. A co-worker and I were recently looking for a lunch spot



CLASSIC FRENCH DIP at Sourdough & Co..

Chow Lines

that was new and different, I recalled seeing an Instagram blurb about S&C, titled "Hid-

den Sandwich Gem in Huntington Beach," and off we went.

Sourdough & Co. is a relatively small chain with about a dozen locations in Orange County. We visited the one located at the Bella Terra mall; according to S&C's website, there is another Huntington Beach location coming soon (on Goldenwest Street.). After finding a primo parking spot — something of a miracle at Bella Terra — we perused the options at the counter.

The front of their printed

Continued on page 10

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NewsUpdate

A 'Big Budget Bill' Is On Its Way

Tax cuts, more money for the border wall

What Republicans have titled "The One Big Beautiful Bill" for the federal budget is moving toward a vote in the House of Representatives.

According to the Associated Press, the bill – which takes its name from a description by President Donald Trump – will include tax breaks, cuts in spending and increased funding for border security.

About \$5 trillion in tax cuts are in the bill, including ending taxes on tips, overtime and interest on automobile loans. Possible changes will include greater deductions for state and local taxes paid. Democrats have vowed to oppose the bill, but Republicans hold narrow majorities in both the



THE PROPOSED FEDERAL BUDGET for 2025-26 is on its way (Shutterstock).

House and Senate.

The planned bill would shift some of the costs of food assistance for the needy to the states, expand work requirements for

those receiving food aid, and cut the Medicaid funding by as much as \$8.6 billion, according to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office.

Also the bill would approve \$46.5 billion for a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border and impose a \$1,000 fee on migrants seeking asylum in the U.S.

Great Thoughts

"To think is easy. To act is difficult. To act as one thinks is the most difficult of all."

– Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, writer

"Without going outside, you may know the whole world."

– Lao Tsu, philosopher

Big profits, but also big layoffs at Microsoft

High-tech giant Microsoft – the power behind the Windows operating system used by 90 percent of computer users – will cut its work force by almost 3 percent, according to United Press International.

That comes as the company reported over \$25 billion in net income for the last quarter.

It's estimated that for each Mi-

crosoft employee fired – at a cost of \$200,000 including salary and benefits – it would mean \$1.4 billion saved in expenses for a year.

Profit margins are often used to measure the value of a publicly-traded stock, and other tech firms have made similar reductions in their work forces.

Deportations under an 18th century law are possible ... however

Contrary to rulings by three other federal courts, a Pennsylvania federal district judge ruled on Tuesday that a Venezuelan man could be deported under an 18th century law – the 1798 Alien Enemies Act – The New York Times reported.

However, Judge Stephanie Haines of the Western District

of Pennsylvania, stated that he must first be given notice in his native language, have 21 days to object to his deportation and be afforded an "opportunity to be heard" in court.

The ruling, which is contrary to other decisions in Texas, Colorado and New York, applies only in the judge's district.

Weather: Spring, summer meet

Summer temperatures in our West Orange County cities will blend into cooler spring breezes toward the weekend. The forecasts call for a daytime high of 73 with an overnight low of 57 under partly cloudy skies on Wednesday. Thursday will be similar at 72 (58). Cloudy skies may arrive by Friday with temps of 70 (58) and cooler days and nights on Saturday at 66 (52).

Arts & Living

'Nonnas' is Schamltzy and Sweet

Vince Vaughn dishes out the fun at a diner

By Lindsey Bahr
AP Film Writer

The new Vince Vaughn movie "Nonnas" aspires to be a bit of cinematic comfort food. It's based on a heartwarming true story, features a lot of shots of simmering Sunday sauces and touts a lovable cast of veteran Italian American actors in Talia Shire, Lorraine Bracco, Brenda Vaccaro and Susan Sarandon. One would hope that those are the kind of ingredients that would be difficult to mess up too badly.

And "Nonnas," streaming on Netflix Friday, is what it wants to be: A glossy, movie version of the local joint. Nothing's groundbreaking or particularly unexpected, the story beats are predictable, and the music choices and Italian American stereotypes a bit cliché.

And yet it's done with an evident earnestness and kindness that makes it impossible to write off. Is it a sign of the times that a bunch of people just being kind to one another is basically enough?

"Nonnas" was directed by Stephen Chbosky ("Perks of Being a Wallflower") working off of a script by Liz Maccie, whom he is married to, and based on the true story of a New Yorker named Joe Scaravella (Vince Vaughn) who starts a Staten Island restaurant with Italian grandmothers as the chefs.

Joe has no business savvy or restaurant knowledge, just an idea after the loss of his own mother and grandmother.

He just wants to pay tribute to the way that they always made him feel with their cooking in the kitchen.

There's a gauzy, sun soaked



LORRAINE BRACCO, Talia Shire, Brenda Vaccaro and Vince Vaughn in a scene from "Nonna" (Netflix).

Movie Review

flashback to the neighborhood in the 1960s showing a young Joe watching his mother and grandmother make the Sunday sauce that's so idealized, so full of smiles as substitute for character, it might as well be a Prego commercial.

There is an obvious reverence for cultural predecessors like "Moonstruck" and "My Cousin Vinny" baked into "Nonnas," though it can't quite find the natural rhythm that might have made it work better. It whiplashes between big comedic swings (including a food fight between the feuding nonnas) and utter sincerity and it is in no rush to get anywhere fast.

But perhaps the greatest miscalculation is centering the story on Joe instead of the women. The nonnas are met where they are in

life — a former nun (Shire), a hair salon owner (Sarandon), a retiree (Bracco) who's estranged from her kids and a widow (Vaccaro) who needs to get out of the house. It seems like there was a missed opportunity to get to know their stories and recipes more.

If food is love, give the audience a chance to fall in love with them through their favorite dishes. Instead, they bond not over food or new appreciation of one another's heritage, but a makeover.

Still, it's worth noting that "Nonnas" is not nearly as gimmicky as it could have been. Vaughn is good in a more subdued role — the stereotypes-for-comedy's-sake are left for his friends (Joe Manganiello and Drea de Matteo) to live and die by. A love story with his old prom date (played by Linda Cardellini) feels a little tacked on to everything else, but I suppose is also just another layer to

Good: ★★★

the second chances narrative. Chbosky and his cinematographer Florian Ballhaus take care to shoot working class Staten Island beautifully, without gimmicks to overromanticize the reality.

Even the "before" images of the restaurant have a glint to them, drawing the audience in to see the potential that Joe sees. Be sure to keep watching through the credits for a little real-life coda.

"Nonnas," like comfort food, may be a little obvious, a little safe, but that's the point.

"Nonnas," a Netflix release streaming Friday, is rated PG by the Motion Picture Association for "suggestive material, language and thematic elements."

TheSportsPages

The plus/minus way of looking at performance

Last week I suggested that “the only good play in basketball is the ball goes in the basket.” I was wrong, or at least incomplete.

There are also the plays – or actions – that don’t actually put the orange sphere in the nylon, but which contribute materially to that result.

In Sunday’s

Los Angeles Times, Ben Bolch wrote about a statistical system that attempted to factor in some of the intangible contributions that lead to victory. It’s



Sports Retorts

Jim Tortolano

called the “plus/minus” and refers to whether the team’s play improved or got worse when you were on the court.

The idea behind it is that it’s often the “little things” that can add up to big results. The stat sheet, for example, will record steals, but not give credit when you knocked the ball loose and was not recovered by Your Team, but which had the effect of disrupting their offense and/or preventing a disheartening fast-break and slam dunk by The Other Team.

Another metrically invisible factor can be spacing on the floor. If you do it smartly, you can funnel the ball-handler to Your Team’s best shot-blocker and voila! you’re all running back the other way.

It’s not a perfect system. Sometimes you are the right guy by sheer blind luck. But more often than not it’s through savvy. In football, it means not lining up with a toe in the neutral zone. In baseball it means aggressively backing up the other fielder by keeping a just-inside-the-foul-line drive from turning from a single into

Continued on page 8

Mike Gets Back In Swing

Trout confident he’ll be back in the lineup soon

By Greg Beacham
AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM (AP) — Mike Trout intends to resume running next week as the Los Angeles Angels slugger ramps up his recovery from a bone bruise in his left knee.

The 33-year-old Trout confirmed Saturday that he won’t be back in the Halos’ lineup when he is immediately eligible to come off the injured list Sunday, but the three-time AL MVP remains confident he won’t miss an extended period of time with his latest injury.

Trout swung a bat in the cage for the third straight day, and he hopes to test his knee with some running when the Angels travel for a series in San Diego to begin next week, calling it “a good possibility.”

“It’s been great,” Trout said. “I was worried in the beginning, but the sharpness (of pain) I was feeling after that day in Seattle is gone.”

Trout hasn’t played since April



MIKE TROUT has been injury-plagued in recent seasons but is hopeful about an early return to the lineup. Nothing is yet certain, he cautions. (Angels photo).

30, when he left the game against the Mariners with knee soreness eventually diagnosed as a bone bruise. He had two operations last year on the knee after tearing his meniscus.

After playing in all of the An-

gels’ first 29 games this season, Trout missed his ninth consecutive game Saturday night when Los Angeles hosted the Baltimore Orioles.

Trout has missed 387 of the

Continued on page 8

Dodgers slammed by Athletics; Angels fall to walkoff home run

The Los Angeles Angels lost late and the Los Angeles Dodgers’ fate was sealed early on Tuesday night.

Two-run rallies in the eighth and ninth innings allowed the San Diego Padres to catch and pass the Halos for a 6-4 victory for the home team at Petco Park and close to within a half-game of the lead in the National League West race.

As for the Blue Crew, they never led and were hammered 11-1 at Chavez Ravine by the home-

THE ROUNDUP

less Athletics.

The Angels got home runs from Zach Neto and Matthew Lugo to build a 4-2 lead going into the final two innings. But the Padres scored twice in the eighth to tie the game at 4-all, and Fernando Tatis settled it with a two-run walkoff homer in the bottom of the ninth.

The Dodgers’ sole run was on a pair of errors in the bottom of

Continued on page 10

AL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
Seattle	23-18	.561	—	4-6
Athletics	22-19	.524	1.5	5-5
Houston	21-20	.512	2	5-5
Texas	22-21	.512	2	6-4
ANGELS	17-24	.415	6	5-5

NL West Standings

	W-L	Pct.	GB	L10
DODGERS	27-15	.645	—	5-5
San Diego	26-15	.639	0.5	6-4
San Fran.	24-18	.581	2.5	5-5
Arizona	22-21	.512	5.5	5-5
Colorado	7-35	.167	20	1-9

'Second season' starts Thursday, Friday

Four baseball teams seeded; none in softball

The CIF-SS baseball seedings and pairings are out as first round post-season play begins with games on Thursday and Friday.

Four West Orange County teams are seeded and a total of six teams are in the playoffs.

Seeded third in Division 1 is Huntington Beach (24-4). Seeded fifth in D-5 is Ocean View (12-16), with Garden Grove (19-9) in fourth in D-7. La Quinta (16-7) is fourth in D-8.

The first round pairings as posted by the CIF-SS office on Monday are below.

All first round games are on Thursday, May 15, except for Division 8 games, which are on Friday, May 16. All games are scheduled to start at 3:15 p.m.

• Division 1: Huntington Beach has a bye and will host the win-

Prep Sport Spotlight

ner of the Newport Harbor-Santa Maria game on May 20.

- Division 5: Ocean View will host Hillcrest.
- Division 7: Garden Grove will host Carter.
- Division 8: Bolsa Grande at University Prep; Rosemead at La Quinta.
- Division 9: Santiago will host Public Safety Academy.

M's vs. Vanguard

Some interesting matchups highlight the first round of the CIF-SS softball playoffs, as announced on Monday.

In Division 1, Huntington Beach (21-7) will visit an unbeaten Charter Oak (16-0) team on Thursday. That same day, Pacifica (15-11) will visit El Modena (18-8), a clash of two teams that tied for the Crestview



PACIFICA WILL face a familiar opponent on Thursday in El Modena in the CIF-SS softball playoffs (GGUSD photo).

League title.

The Mariners and Vanguard met three times this season, with the M's prevailing 3-2 and then losing the last two contests by scores of 4-3 and 4-0.

Here are the pairings for area teams. All first round games are set for 3:15 p.m. on Thursday. Second round contests will be played on Saturday.

• Division 1: Huntington Beach at Charter Oak, Pacifica at El Modena.

- Division 4: Edison (11-14) at Poly/Long Beach (16-5);
- Division 5: Santiago (16-8) at Kaiser (10-15).
- Division 7: Westminster (13-11) at Moreno Valley (11-8); Capistrano Valley Christian (5-12) at Los Amigos (15-6).
- Division 8: Orange (7-11) at Brentwood (6-9); Bolsa Grande (9-16) at Hawthorne (11-13); Rancho Alamitos (12-6) at Hoover (13-11).



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Mike Trout is getting back in the swing

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Angels' 646 games — almost 60% — since May 17, 2021, when he tore his calf muscle and was sidelined for the rest of that season.

He missed five weeks of the 2022 season with a back injury, and he missed half of the 2023 season after his hand was broken by a pitch. He missed all but 29 games last season, not even making it out of April healthy.

Trout's current injury does not appear to be anywhere close to season-ending — and for a superstar whose ascent has been derailed by five years of injuries, that's a huge relief.

"I don't have a day (for a return), but I feel great," Trout

said. "I feel good. Talking to the doctors, it's kind of like a scab kind of thing. We're just adding exercises each and every day,

and (continuing) if it's feeling good ... but (there's) no soreness, so we'll keep progressing like that."

Sports Retorts: Finding the balance of plus and minus

Continued from page 6

a triple while the ball bounces around by the 325 sign.

In the recent stage play at the Gem Theater, the manager of the fictional Washington Senators tells his players that "you gotta have heart." In real life, Yogi Berra said, "Baseball is 90 percent mental. The other half is physical."

They're 100 percent right. And I'm betting you could see it on a plus/minus chart.



Who helped eradicate the plague of polio?
Garden Grove Rotary

Who sponsors a defibrillator program to save lives when heart attacks strike?
Garden Grove Rotary

Who recognizes 6th grade students for achievement in academics and scholarship?
Garden Grove Rotary

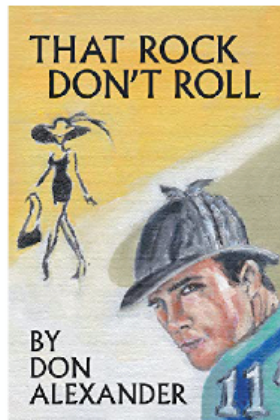
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Don Alexander has been a sports columnist, a sports broadcaster, talk show host and a college instructor. This is his first novel.

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Continued from page 6

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Finding that perfect French Dip sandwich

Continued from page 3

menu says “Sandwiches, Soup and Salads,” but they also serve what look to be some very tasty flatbreads: Veggie, Barbecue Chicken, Italian, Mushroom, and Artichoke Chicken. Sourdough & Co.’s sandwiches are served on their freshly baked sourdough bread (naturally) and come in 4”, 6”, and 8” sizes.

I opted for the 6” French Dip and about two bites in, I definitely rued not going for the 8”. Simply put, this is one of the best French Dip sandwiches I have ever tasted. The warm sourdough bread is just perfect: slightly crunchy on the outside (but not “tear-the-roof-of-your-mouth” crunchy) and soft and pillowy on the inside. It holds together the tender, thinly sliced roast beef, slightly tangy



IN BELLA TERRA is HB’s Sourdough & Co..

Chili cholula and jalapeno ranch dressing, topped with the house spread, lettuce, tomato, crisp jalapenos, and pepper jack cheese. Their assessment of their sandwich was similar to mine: great flavor with fresh ingredients.

The menu at S & C is varied and should have something to please nearly anyone. (They also offer kids meals.) Next time I might try the Pastrami Reuben sandwich...or maybe the Smoked Brisket...or the New England Clam Chowder in a sourdough bread bowl...or perhaps the Greek or Italian Salad. Another plus: you can choose from seven different types of artisan cheeses for your sandwiches.

Sourdough & Co. is located at 7821 Edinger Ave., Ste. 122, in Huntington Beach. You can find them online at SourdoughAndCo.com.

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JUN 12TH - JUL 20TH

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Swiss cheese, and they don’t skimp on the beef, either, which is top round London Broil and served warm. One of my biggest complaints about sandwich shops is the inability to take small bites from a sandwich without entire slices of meat being extricated from the sandwich.

No such problem at Sourdough & Co., though: this roast beef is so tender that small bites are not an issue.

My lunch companion was craving something a bit spicier, so they went for the Cholula Chicken sandwich: carved chicken marinated in green

Jim T’s Retorts

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levard hotels.

I call that doing well by doing good. Or as they say in Rome, “ludere pila.”

Baseball final: LA goes 0-2

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the third.

In losing to the Padres, the Angels wasted a good start by Jose Soriano, who pitched seven shutout innings.

He yielded only four hits and struck out five batters. At bat, Nolan Schanuel was 3-for-4 with one run scored.

At Dodger Stadium, Will Smith was 3-for-4.

Starter Landon Knack was touched for seven hits and five earned runs in 4.2 innings. He struck out eight A’s.

The Angels and Padres will play again on Wednesday and the Dodgers and Athletics will also meet again.

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